

Christ King Hr. Sec. School, Kohima
Class-XI
Subject- Sociology

UNIT-V
SOCIAL PROCESSES

Short Answer Questions

1. What is social process? What are the two types of social processes? (13)

Ans: Social processes are repetitive interaction patterns of behaviour which are commonly found in social life.

The two types of social processes are:

(i) Associative processes: Associative processes bring persons together and promote understanding and harmonious living.

(ii) Dissociative processes: Dissociative processes divide or separate people. They give rise to self promotion, misunderstandings and quarrels.

2. Explain the meaning of cooperation.

Ans: Cooperation generally means working together for a common goal or interest. The word 'cooperation' is derived from the Latin word 'co-operare' which means 'to work together'. Therefore, the literal meaning of 'cooperation' is 'to work together' or 'joint action'.

3. Mention any four types of the process of accommodation in society.

Ans: The four types of the process of accommodation in society are:

(i) Pressure:

The stronger party exerts pressure and the weaker party yields to pressure leading to accommodation. Such pressure may be direct or indirect.

(ii) Compromise:

Both the parties come to an understanding on the basis of common ground like justice, peace and harmony.

(iii) Consensus:

When both the parties come to a common understanding usually after discussion, consensus emerges.

(iv) Toleration:

Toleration is when the parties accept one another as they are. This may be based on respect for others or simply because there is no other possibility. Tolerance is a feature of Indian society which is plural.

4. Assignment.

5. Mention any four factors favouring assimilation.

Ans: The four factors favouring assimilation are:

(i) The similarities between the two cultures.

(ii) Equal socio-economic opportunity.

(iii) Inter-marriages.

(iv) Exposure to dominant culture.

6. What are the four forms of competition?

Ans: The four forms of competition are:

- (a) Pure and limited competition.
- (b) Absolute and relative competition.
- (c) Personal and impersonal competition.
- (d) Creative and non-creative competition.

7. Explain how conflict leads to social integration.

Ans: Conflict can sometimes lead to social integration because conflict within a group can put an end to divisive trends and factionalism. Thus conflict within a group such as a political party can eliminate dissatisfaction and re-establish unity. Conflict with an outside or external group usually leads to greater unity within the group. For example, war against another country, can unite the country in various ways.

8. Give two integrative functions of social conflict.

Ans: The two integrative functions of social conflict are:

- (i) Conflict within a group such as political party can put an end to divisive trends and factionalism. It can eliminate dissatisfaction and re-establish unity.
- (ii) Conflict with an outside or external group usually leads to greater unity within the group. Example, war against another country can unite the country in various ways.

9. Assignment.

Essay Type Questions

1. What is cooperation? Discuss the various forms of cooperation.

Ans: Cooperation is the social process in which individuals or groups engage in joint action to achieve a common goal.

The various forms of cooperation are:

(i) Direct cooperation:

Direct cooperation is found in small groups where every member works together to accomplish a task. It is seen in the family, lineage and clan whose members are related closely. Such cooperation is based on love affection, duties and obligations.

(ii) Indirect cooperation:

Indirect cooperation is found in large groups like the factory, government and other secondary groups. Different members perform different tasks in order to reach a common goal. For example, in a factory different workers perform different tasks to produce an item like cloth or a machine.

2. Assignment.

3. What is accommodation? Explain the various methods of accommodation.

Ans: Accommodation is the social process through which individuals and groups try to establish harmony in the social environment.

The various methods of accommodation are:

(i) Pressure:

The stronger party exerts pressure and the weaker party yields to pressure leading to accommodation. Such pressure may be direct or indirect.

(ii) Compromise:

Both the parties come to an understanding on the basis of common ground like justice, peace and harmony.

(iii) Consensus:

When both the parties come to a common understanding usually after discussion, consensus emerges.

(iv) Toleration:

Toleration is when the parties accept one another as they are. This may be based on respect for others or simply because there is no other possibility. Tolerance is a feature of Indian society which is plural.

(v) Conversion:

Conversion takes place when one of the conflicting parties admits that the other is correct.

(vi) Conflict can be stopped by giving plausible or lame excuses. Instead of admitting defeat, the individual tries to give reasons for his change of behaviour.

(vii) Finally conflicts are stopped when the individual realizes his subordination to the other.

4. What is competition? Briefly explain the different forms/types of competition.

Ans: According to Biesanz, "Competition is the striving of two or more persons for the same goal which is limited so that all cannot share".

Competition can be classified on the basis of different criteria. According to Mercer and Wanderer, competition can be classified as follows:

(a) Pure and limited competition:

Pure competition is the competition without any restrictions. But in reality, it does not exist because competition is always limited or restricted. Limited competition is one in which individuals or groups compete according to rules.

(b) Absolute and relative competition:

Absolute competition is found when the reward is precise and definite. Only one can get a first prize, and only one person can become the President. Relative competition is found when the reward is not precise, and different competitions can get different levels of rewards. This is the case in competition for prestige, wealth and power.

(c) Personal and impersonal competition:

Personal competition is found when the competitors directly compete with one another as in a sports event. Impersonal competition is found when there is no personal contact between the competitors as in the case of companies which produce the same items.

(d) Creative and non-creative competition:

Creative competition is found when the competition involves creativity as in the production of new items. Non-creative competition is one in which there is no creativity involved as in the case of industries that exploits minerals.

5, 6 & 7 Assignments:

8. What is conflict? Explain the various types of conflicts.

Ans: According to A. W. Green, "Conflict is a deliberate attempt to oppose, resist and coerce the will of another or others".

Conflicts are of many types. George Simmel classified those under four categories. They are:

(i) War:

War is an armed conflict causing destruction of men and materials in huge quantity.

(ii) Feud:

Feud is intra-group conflict for the alleged injustice done by one to the other. It is a factional struggle within the group and is found in 'power struggle'.

(iii) Litigation:

Litigation is a fight for justice through the courts of law and is more objective in nature.

(iv) Conflict of Ideals:

Conflict when carried on to uphold certain ideas or ideals is called conflict of impersonal ideals. Each party is after the ideal and not after persons. Here, ideals are important than the persons. Conflict may create tense situations. It may also lead to solve social problems, may promote solidarity within a group and may stiffen the morale. So also it may damage life and property, may lead to weaken the relationship, unity and morality. Thus, conflict has more negative impacts than the positive ones.

**UNIT-VI
METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF SOCIAL RESEARCH**

Short Answer Questions

1. List out the aims of social research. ('13)

Ans: The aims of social research are to:

- (i) Discover new facts or verify and test old facts.
- (ii) Analyse their sequences, interrelationships, and causal explanations which are derived within an appropriate frame of reference.
- (iii) Develop new scientific tools, concepts and theories, which will facilitate and valid study of human behaviour.

2. Distinguish between primary data and secondary data.

Ans: Primary data are those which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character whereas secondary data are those which have already been collected by someone else and have already been passed through the statistical process.

3. Mention three challenges a participant observer has to face.

Ans: The three challenges a participant observer has to face are:

- (i) The identities of the informants must be protected.
- (ii) Systematic notes must be kept each day and memory must be maintained afresh.
- (iii) The observer must be careful not to influence the behaviour that he or she is observing.

4. Mention any two merits and demerits of participant observation.

Ans: **Two merits of participant observation are:**

- (i) Since the observer is not a stranger but a known person, it is possible to observe the natural behavior of the group.

(ii) It is also possible to get better insights into the inner dynamics of the phenomena since the observer happens to be an insider.

Two demerits of participant observation are:

(i) The observing researcher has no control over what happens and may have difficulty in putting the observations into systematic form in order to draw conclusions.

(ii) The number of subjects or people the researcher can observe is small.

5. What is participant observation? Write two merits of participant observation.('10)

Ans: If the observer observes by making himself more or less a member of the group he is observing so that he can experience what the members of the group experience, the observation is called participant observation.

Two merits of participant observation are:

(i) Since the observer is not a stranger but a known person, it is possible to observe the natural behaviour of the group.

(ii) It is also possible to get better insights into the inner dynamics of the phenomena since the observer happens to be an insider.

6. What is meant by non-participation observation? Give two merits and demerits each of non-participation observation.('14)

Ans: When the observer observes as a detached emissary without any attempt on his part to experience through participation what others feel, the observation of this type is often termed as non-participant observation.

Two merits of non-participation observation are:

(i) This type contributes to a higher degree of objectivity on the part of the observer. There is no need for him to become emotionally involved in the event.

(ii) Since the observer observes the events with an 'open mind' he is able to collect more information.

Two demerits of non-participation observation are:

(i) Observation in this category is mostly limited to formal occasions and organizations. It fails to provide information regarding many aspects of our social life.

(ii) Since the observer is an outsider he may fail to understand the behaviour of the observed in its entirety. The observer may not get insights into different aspects of behaviour.

7. Differentiate between personal interview and telephone interview.

Ans: Personal interview method requires a person known as the interviewer asking questions generally in a face to face contact to the other person or persons whereas telephone interview refers to the method of collecting information consists in contacting respondent on telephone itself.

8. What are personal interviews? State two merits of a personal interview technique of data collection.('12)

Ans: Personal interview method requires a person known as the interviewer asking questions generally in a face to face contact to the other person or persons.

The two merits of a personal interview technique of data collection are:

(i) More information in greater depth can be obtained.

(ii) Greater flexibility to restructure questions.

9. Distinguish between schedule and questionnaire.

Ans: Schedule is a proforma containing a set of questions whereas a questionnaire is another method of data collection which consists of a number of questions printed or typed in a definite order on a form or set of forms.

10. Give any four points of difference between questionnaire and schedule. ('10, '13)

Ans: The four points of difference between questionnaire and schedule are:

(i) Questionnaire is generally sent through mail to informants to be answered as specified in a cover letter, but otherwise without further assistance from the sender. The schedule is generally filled out by the research worker or the enumerator, who can interpret questions when necessary.

(ii) Questionnaire method is relatively cheap and economical, and no field staff is required. Schedule method is relatively more expensive where money has to be spent appointing enumerators and training.

(iii) In case of questionnaire, it is not always clear as to who replies, but in a case of schedule the identity of respondent is known.

(iv) Questionnaire method can be used only when the respondents are literate and cooperative, but in case of schedules the information can be gathered even the respondents happen to be illiterate.

11. Mention two merits and demerits each of questionnaire method. ('14)

Ans: **The two merits of questionnaire method are:**

(i) There is a low cost even when the study universe is large and is widely spread geographically.

(ii) It is free from the bias of the interviewer; answers are in respondent's own words.

The two demerits of questionnaire method are:

(i) Low rate of return of the duly filled-in questionnaire; bias due to non-response.

(ii) It can be used only when respondents are educated and cooperating.

Essay Type Questions

1. What is observation method? Give three advantages of observation method. ('14)

Ans: Observation method is one of the principal techniques of data collection. It is the most commonly used method especially in studies relating to behavioural sciences. It becomes a scientific tool and method of data collection for the researcher when it is systematically planned and is subjected to checks and controls on validity and reliability.

The three advantages of observation method are:

(i) The main advantage of this method is that subjective bias is eliminated.

(ii) The information obtained under this method relates to what is currently happening; it is not complicated by either the past behaviour or future intentions or attitudes.

(iii) This method is independent of respondents' willingness to respond and as such is relatively less demanding of active cooperation on the part of respondents as happens to be the case in the interview or the questionnaire method.

2. Examine the merits and limitations of the observation method in collecting primary data.

Ans: **The merits of the observation method in collecting primary data are:**

(i) The main advantage of this method is that subjective bias is eliminated.

(ii) The information obtained under this method relates to what is currently happening; it is not complicated by either the past behavior or future intentions or attitudes.

(iii) This method is independent of respondents' willingness to respond and as such is relatively less demanding of active cooperation on the part of respondents as happens to be the case in the interview or the questionnaire method.

The limitations of the observation method in collecting primary data are:

- (i) It is an expensive method.
- (ii) The information provided by this method is very limited.
- (iii) Sometimes unforeseen factors may interfere in the observation task. At times, the fact that some people are rarely accessible to direct observation creates obstacle for this method to collect data effectively.

3. What is participant observation? List out any five merits of participant observation.

Ans: If the observer observes by making himself more or less a member of the group he is observing so that he can experience what the members of the group experience, the observation is called participant observation.

The five merits of participant observation are:

- (i) Since the observer is not a stranger but a known person, it is possible to observe the natural behaviour of the group.
- (ii) This type facilitates gathering quantitatively more and qualitatively better information about the people or events
- (iii) It is also possible to get better insights into the inner dynamics of the phenomena since the observer happens to be an insider.
- (iv) Even the so-called secret behaviour (relating to sex, crime, business tactics, etc.) can be observed through this method.
- (v) The dependability of the data collected through this method is believed to be greater because it is gathered first hand.

4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of non-participant observation?

Ans: **The advantages of non-participant observation are:**

- (a) This type contributes to a higher degree of objectivity on the part of the observer. There is no need for him to become emotionally involved in the event.
- (b) Since the observer observes the events with an 'open mind' he is able to collect more information.
- (c) The people who are being observed can also be free with the observer for he is an outsider.

The disadvantages of non-participant observation are:

- (a) Observation in this category is mostly limited to formal occasions and organizations. It fails to provide information regarding many aspects of our social life.
- (b) Since the observer is an outsider he may fail to understand the behaviour of the observed in its entirety. The observer may not get insights into different aspects of behaviour.

5. Discuss interview as a technique of data collection.

Ans: Interview is one of the important methods of collecting data in social research. It involves presentation of oral-verbal stimuli and reply in terms of oral-verbal responses. There are two methods of interview.

(i) Personal Interview:

Personal interview method requires a person known as the interviewer asking questions generally in a face to face contact to the other person or persons. This sort of interview may be in the form of direct personal investigation or it may be indirect oral investigation. In the first case, the

interviewer has to collect the information personally from the people concerned. He has to be on the spot and has to meet people from whom data have to be collected. This method is particularly suitable for intensive investigation. But in certain cases it may not be possible or worthwhile to contact directly the persons concerned or on account of the extensive scope of enquiry, the direct personal investigation technique may not be used. In such cases an indirect oral examination can be conducted under which the interviewer has to cross-examine other persons who are supposed to have knowledge about the problem under investigation and the information, obtained is recorded.

(ii) Telephone Interview:

This method of method of collecting information consists in contacting respondent on telephone itself. It is not a very widely used method, but plays important part in industrial surveys, particularly in developed regions.

6. Discuss questionnaire as a technique of data collection highlighting its merits and demerits.

Ans: questionnaire is another method of data collection which consists of a number of questions printed or typed in a definite order on a form or set of forms. In this method, a questionnaire is sent (usually by post) to the persons concerned with a request to answer the questions and return the questionnaire. The questionnaire is mailed to the respondents who are expected to read and understand the questions and write down the replies in the space meant for the purpose in the questionnaire itself. The respondents have to answer the questions on their own. This method is extensively employed by private individuals, research workers, private and public organizations, governments, and various economic and business surveys. This method of dated collection is quite popular, particularly in case of big enquiries.

Merits are:

- (i) There is a low cost even when the study universe is large and is widely spread geographically.
- (ii) It is free from the bias of the interviewer; answers are in respondent's own words.
- (iii) Respondents have adequate time to give well thought out answers.
- (iv) Respondents, who are not easily approachable, can also be reached conveniently.
- (v) Large samples can be made use of and thus results can be made more dependable.

Demerits are:

- (i) Low rate of return of the duly filled-in questionnaire; bias due to non-response.
- (ii) It can be used only when respondents are educated and cooperating.
- (iii) The control over the questionnaire may be lost once it is sent.
- (iv) There is inbuilt inflexibility because of the difficulty of amending the approach one questionnaires have been dispatched.
- (v) This method is likely to be slowest of all.

7. Explain the difference between collection of data through questionnaires and schedules.

Ans: The difference between collection of data through questionnaires and schedules are:

- (i) Questionnaire is generally sent through mail to informants to be answered as specifies in a cover letter, but otherwise without further assistance from the sender. The schedule is generally filled out by the research worker or the enumerator, who can interpret questions when necessary.
- (ii) Questionnaire method is relatively cheap and economical, and no field staff is required. Schedule method is relatively more expensive where money has to be spent appointing enumerators and training.
- (iii) Non-response is usually high in questionnaire which results in bias. The response rate in schedule is high but there remains the danger of interviewer bias and cheating.

(iv) In case of questionnaire, it is not always clear as to who replies, but in a case of schedule the identity of respondent is known.

(v) Questionnaire method can be used only when the respondents are literate and cooperative, but in case of schedules the information can be gathered even the respondents happen to be illiterate.

(vi) Wider and more representative distribution of sample is possible under the questionnaire method, but in respect of schedules there usually remains the difficulty in sending enumerators over a relatively wider area.

UNIT-X

WESTERN SOCIAL THINKERS

Short Answer Questions

1. Discuss the four stages of development of human society according to Karl Marx. (12)

Ans: The four stages of development of human society according to Karl Marx are:

(i) Primitive Communism or the Asiatic Stage:

This stage was characterized by communal ownership of land and other resources. As there was no private property, there were no 'owners' and 'non-owners', and therefore, no classes and no class struggle. But in course of time the institution of private property began to emerge leading to the establishment of the next stage.

(ii) The Ancient Stage:

The ancient stage of society was represented by the slave-owning societies. The two classes were (a) the masters and (b) the slaves. In this system, the master had the right of ownership over the slave and also over what the slave produced.

(iii) The Feudal Stage:

The feudal had two classes. They were (a) lords and (b) serfs. The lords were the owners of land and property and constituted the ruling class. The serfs had no property rights, but could use the lord's property.

(iv) The Capitalist Stage:

In this stage, the two classes were (a) the bourgeoisie and (b) the proletariat. The bourgeoisie or the capitalists own the capital (money, credit and materials of production). The proletariat or the workers have only their labour or work.

2. Assignment.

3. Give two criticisms of Marx's theory of class conflict.

Ans: The two criticisms of Marx's theory of class conflict are:

(i) Marx considers economic factors alone as the bases of the distinction between classes.

(ii) Marx reduces the number of social classes to only two, while the class structure of most societies is extremely complex especially because of the existence of a middle class.

4. Discuss briefly Marx's contributions to sociology.

Ans: Karl Marx's contribution to sociology is based on human history. It includes the concepts of dialectical materialism and alienation. Along with Emile Durkheim and Max Weber, Marx is seen

as one of the three founders of the social science. Marx's theories, which have come to be grouped under the term Marxism, centered on the intersection of society economics and politics.

5. Briefly explain Durkheim's views on organic solidarity. (13)

Ans: Organic solidarity is based on difference and division of labour. It is solidarity of consensus. The coherent unity of society results from differentiation. Organic solidarity is so called because it is like the unity found in a living organism where the parts, though highly differentiated, form a unity. Organic solidarity is found in advanced societies.

6. Distinguish between mechanical solidarity and organic solidarity.

Ans: The difference between mechanical solidarity and organic solidarity are:

Mechanical solidarity	Organic solidarity
1. Mechanical solidarity is based on likeness or similarities.	1. Organic solidarity is based on differences and division of labour.
2. It is solidarity of resemblance.	2. It is solidarity of consensus.
3. It is found in less developed societies.	3. It is found in advanced societies.

7. Briefly discuss the four types of social action propounded by Max Weber. (12)

Ans: The four types of social action propounded by Max Weber are:

(i) Zweckrational action or goal-rational action:

This is the rational action oriented towards goal. The actor chooses the rational action which is oriented towards goals rather than value. This is done in terms of efficiency to attain the goal example in bureaucracy.

(ii) Wertrational action or value-rational action:

It is the rational action oriented towards value. The rational actions are chosen because of their value importance.

(iii) Affective action or emotional action:

It is determined by the 'emotional state of actors'. When the means and ends are oriented and influenced by emotion, the social action is an emotional action.

(iv) Traditional action:

When the means and ends are determined by conventions and traditional customs, then the action is called traditional action.

8. Mention four important features of bureaucracy.

Ans: The four important features of bureaucracy are:

(i) Bureaucracy is characterized by written records.

(ii) The officials are appointed on the basis of merit and qualifications.

(iii) The bureaucrats do not own the means and so they cannot use their power for private purposes.

(iv) The officials in a bureaucratic structure must act impersonally, rationally and according to rules.

9. Assignment.

Essay Type Questions

1. & 2. Assignment.

3. Discuss Durkheim's views on social solidarity.

Or

4. Discuss Durkheim's concept of mechanical solidarity and organic solidarity.('14)

Ans:**Mechanical solidarity:**

Mechanical solidarity is based on likeness or similarities. It is the solidarity of resemblance. It is found in societies in which individuals differ from one another as little as possible. They resemble one another because they feel the same emotions, cherish the same values, and hold the same things sacred. Such a society is coherent because individuals are not yet differentiated. Such solidarity is found in less developed societies.

Societies characterized by mechanical solidarity are divided into segments, which completely envelop the individual. A segment society is based on clans, and in a more evolved form, based on territory. There is a low degree of interdependence. There is also low density because the number of interactions is limited.

Organic solidarity:

Organic solidarity is based on difference and division of labour. It is solidarity of consensus. The coherent unity of society results from differentiation. Organic solidarity is so called because it is like the unity found in a living organism where the parts, though highly differentiated, form a unity. Organic solidarity is found in advanced societies.

Societies characterized by organic solidarity have an organized social structure in which various segments are fused. There is a high degree of interdependence. There is a high volume of population and interactions takes place between a large numbers of people. There is also a high density of interactions.

The concepts of mechanical and organic solidarity correspond to two extreme forms of social organization. While the concept of mechanical solidarity is useful for understanding simple societies like tribes, the concept of organic solidarity is useful for understanding modern complex societies and pluralistic societies like Indian society.

5. Explain the features of bureaucracy as given by Max Weber.

Ans: The features of bureaucracy as given by Max Weber are:

(i) As an organization, bureaucracy is a continuous performance of official functions according to rules.

(ii) Persons performing these functions have specified spheres of competence and are given necessary authority to fulfill their duties.

(iii) The authority is differentially distributed. A hierarchy of official positions is formed. Higher officials have controlling and supervisory functions with respect to the subordinates.

(iv) The officials are appointed on the basis of merit and qualifications.

(v) The bureaucrats do not own the means and so they cannot use their power for private purposes.

(vi) Bureaucracy is characterized by written records.

(vii) The officials in a bureaucratic structure must act impersonally, rationally and according to rules.

(viii) Bureaucrats have security of service tenure, paid salary according to scale, and enjoy pension benefits.

6. Discuss Max Weber's concept of bureaucracy. ('13)

Ans: According to Max Weber, bureaucracy is the type of social organization in hierarchical order in which each person is assigned with power and authority. Its aim is to rationally run the administration of states or other organizations.

The features of bureaucracy are:

(i) As an organization, bureaucracy is a continuous performance of official functions according to rules.

(ii) Persons performing these functions have specified spheres of competence and are given necessary authority to fulfill their duties.

(iii) The authority is differentially distributed. A hierarchy of official positions is formed. Higher officials have controlling and supervisory functions with respect to the subordinates.

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